

REMARKS

Request for Consideration of References

As a preliminary matter, in the Office Action mailed May 24, 2004, the Examiner did not attach an initialed copy of the PTO-1449 forms that were mailed to the PTO on June 16, 2000 and September 16, 2003. A courtesy copy of said PTO-1449 forms are attached herewith. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner indicate that the references listed on said PTO-1149 forms have been considered and made of record.

Status of Application

Reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested. The specification has been amended to claim the benefit of an earlier filing date in the United States. No new matter has been added. Claims 1-20 and 47-90 remain pending in the application. No claims have been amended. No claims have been added. No new matter has been added. No claims have been canceled.

Office Action Rejections

Claims 1, 3-10, 12-20, 47-57, 68-90, and 94-97 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,173,317 of Chaddha ("Chaddha") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,128,653 of del Val ("del Val").

Claims 2, 11, 47, 48, 51-54, 62-71 and 91-93 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Chaddha in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,991,799 to Yen ("Yen").

Claims 58-61 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Chaddha in view of Yen, del Val, and U.S. Patent No. 5,512,935 to Majeti ("Majeti").

In view of applicants' amendment with respect to the claim of the benefit of an earlier filing date in the United States, it is respectfully submitted that the cited references do not qualify as prior art against the claims of the present application. Therefore, it is respectfully requested that the rejections be withdrawn.

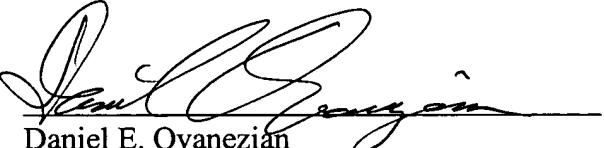
If the Examiner believes a telephone interview would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact Daniel Ovanezian at (408) 720-8300.

If there are any additional charges, please charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

Dated: 7/26, 2004



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Juanita B.
Signature

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Date